

9-10-1831

Letter to Rachel Denison

Philander Chase

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Recommended Citation

Chase, Philander, "Letter to Rachel Denison" (1831). *Philander Chase Letters*. 916.
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10. Feb
1831.

Dear Sir Richard

I have resigned
my episcopal jurisdiction of
Ohio and with it of course my
Presidency of Kenyon College
or (as it is called in law) of the
Theol. Sem. of the P. E. Ch. in
Ohio.

As I have done this for the
sake of the peace of the Church
I hope for the blessing of God
thru Jesus Christ Our Lord
The Rev. Mr M. J. ^{or formerly} ~~of~~
Brooklyn Long Island is elected
Bishop. I go with my family to
live at Mrs Phelps land 32 miles from
this P. Chase

Gambier Tuesday night
Sep 13 1851

Dear Sister you know I faithfully promised to give
you an op of all that passed in Convention but how
is that possible by your brother's letter you see the
results under the mask of doing God service
what evil has not been done in the wake - poor
poor George has been and is still this dupe 3 weeks
before Convention your brother fell through the
timber laid on the Church and landed himself
by bruising his leg in a shocking manner - it con-
-fined him to the bed entirely and for 2 days I
was alarmed for the consequence - can you credit it
that George never enquired in all this time how
he did though I frequently met him about the
house - well Wednesday came and with difficulty
he was taken in a carriage to Chi his address was
not delivered until the evening on then before
the Convention alone - he threw himself on them
to maintain his Constitutional rights and defend
him from calumny - but the business had been
all arranged before the leading men met it was
resolved to destroy everything that looked like
Episcopal authority and to expel those who
had stood up - and raised themselves by crying out for
the liberties of the Teachers many who attended
Convention went to see the proceedings it was an
infamous set of men not more than six that
led the votes against those who were shocked to find
they had been guilty of a great sin when they
thought they must be right by following men
of high standing in Chi and state - they could
every attempt to enter the Journals there

expression of their opinion that the Bp. had not
exercised his constitutional privileges in this distressed
situation held forth to the world as a tyrant and oppressor
and refused the support of the Convention - he felt
his day of usefulness was over - how could a man accused
of such crimes as Mr Sproun circulate sets forth
be to appear before the world as a Bishop or a
recipient of the choir of others - what remained
for him but to resign all and thus allow the fire
that they had kindled to consume him for a short
time it was afflicted for I feared its effect on his
mind & health but every succeeding hour has
shown me that he is doing God will and I can only
heartily believe and trust that we shall yet live
to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of
the living Monday morning taking Dudley and a faithful
man with him he went to Millersburg to see
Sarah's land and if the situation can be made
comfortable to prepare for moving soon - his
health is quite good his leg healing and his mind
calm and at times quite cheerful his trust in
God unshaken - bowing to this mysterious providence
he blesses the ~~friend~~ that dispenses mercy
Did the Christian shine so bright on the man
appear so dignified - Naboth's vineyard is taken
possession off but he is not yet killed from
the deep forest a voice will be heard - not
to complain or call down curses on his persecu-
tors but to give that explanation which the
Christian would demand - Do not grieve dear
sister God is in all this - and he will do right
you will be anxious to know what the state
of things is here - I see but little but that
little tends to ruin - The Bp before he left

all that he knew to be faithful to remain they
were all for leaving immediately but knowing
the immediate ruin that must ensue he made
it a test of their attachment to him that they
remain and serve the cause as formerly - who
on ^{the} Douglas Williams. Horace Geomes poor -
a new Agent is appointed - and now did I pity
a man ~~more~~ he seems a worthy person but
is suddenly called to an office that must be dis-
tracting to him - the new President W. S. is a ge-
neral looking the screen viewing the desolation his
enough has wrought - they have no means to go
on or pay debts - your brother C. would have
done all the public confidence they have
robbed him off and they have the vanity
to believe they will fill the College and prosper
the Potter & Wilmer mission not yet gone beyond
the Chesapeake has returned \$500. and promises
by installments of \$25 per year to accomplish all
they had in heart to do - If you wish a sample
of the spirit that prevailed at the Convention
I will give one instance - your acquaintance Mr. Boy
was at the hotel soon after the news of the seizure
was known all were in tears he proposed prayer
we assented to the propriety we wanted comfort
said the friend who told me and knew not where
else to seek it - He opened the bible and to the
honor of all read the 1 Chap. & Acts beginning
at the 15 verse - and then prayed that things might
be better conducted & social could not remain
ran from the room - and before and since he has
been round us with a smiling countenance professing
friendship -

KCH 30910
Wednesday night 9 o'clock

I have been very busy today. Dudley returned
just as I finished the enclosed sheet - he left
his Father well and cheerful - There is a Cabin
that will afford a present shelter on the land
and tomorrow Mrs. Rafael and the children go -
I would accompany them - but cannot put so much
properly out of my hands without an inventory
Mrs. Douglass and Wm. Acton will assist me on this
reason why I cannot immediately leave is
the trustees have not audited the accounts which
is meant by this I cannot imagine the books
are made out with an exactness that will
satisfy the most jealous - and when giving
them up I requested the closest scrutiny
they footed up the receipts but looked not
at the expenditures - and left without seeing
me - my sense of right is to keep the books
in my own hands and wait until the proper
authority which I presume is in the Comptroller
-tee on Finance demand them - one lives in
Columbus the other in - Cleabland - I have written
to night to ask my husband's direction if
he assents I shall leave this Saturday morn-
ing - and take them with me - adieu dear

Sister believing as you do that God does
all things right you will be comforted -
and love us as ever love to brother &
believe me as ever yours & the same

Mrs R. Dennison

Roxallton
Vermont

36 + 400. 1831
Barnes Sept. 1831